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JCD3 Rec'd PCT/EP00/12467 17 AUG 2001

211892US-0PCT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :

HANS-ULRICH PETEREIT ET AL : ATTN: APPLICATION DIVISION

SERIAL NO: NEW U.S. PCT APPLN :
(Based on PCT/EP00/12467) :

FILED: HEREWITH :

FOR: INJECTION MOULDING :
PROCESS FOR NEUTRAL AND
ACID-GROUP-CONTAINING
(METH)ACRYLATE
COPOLYMERS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

IN THE TITLE

Please insert the following title beginning on page 1, line 1, as a separate paragraph.

--INJECTION MOLDING METHOD FOR NEUTRAL AND ACIDIC-GROUP
CONTAINING (METH)ACRYLATE COPOLYMERS--

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IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as shown on the marked-up copy following this amendment to read as follows:

3. (Amended) Process according to Claim 1, characterized in that the (meth)acrylate copolymer comprises, as (meth)acrylate monomer having an anionic group in the alkyl radical, from 1 to 50% by weight of methacrylic acid.

4. (Amended) Process according to Claim 1, characterized in that the mixture comprises from 0.5 to 25% by weight of plasticizer.

5. (Amended) Injection moulding which can be produced by a process according to Claim 1.

7. (Amended) Moulding according to Claim 5, characterized in that it is a capsule, part of a capsule, or part of a dosage unit.

8. (Amended) Moulding according to Claim 5, characterized in that it comprises an active pharmaceutical ingredient.

9. (Amended) Use of a moulding according to Claim 5 to contain or carry an active pharmaceutical ingredient.

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REMARKS

Claims 1-9 are active in the present application. Claims 3-5 and 7-9 have been amended to remove multiple dependencies. A title has been inserted as a separate paragraph on page 1. No new matter has been added. An action on the merits and allowance of claims is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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<p>Marked-Up Copy Serial No: <hr/> Amendment Filed on: <u>2/17/01</u></p>

IN THE TITLE

Please insert the following title beginning on page 1, line 1, as a separate paragraph.

--INJECTION MOULDING PROCESS FOR NEUTRAL AND ACID-CONTAINING
(METH)ACRYLATE COPOLYMERS--

IN THE CLAIMS

--3. (Amended) Process according to Claim 1 [or 2], characterized in that the (meth)acrylate copolymer comprises, as (meth)acrylate monomer having an anionic group in the alkyl radical, from 1 to 50% by weight of methacrylic acid.

4. (Amended) Process according to [one or more of Claims 1 to 3] Claim 1, characterized in that the mixture comprises from 0.5 to 25% by weight of plasticizer.

5. (Amended) Injection moulding which can be produced by a process according to [one or more of Claims 1 to 4] Claim 1.

7. (Amended) Moulding according to Claim 5 [or 6], characterized in that it is a capsule, part of a capsule, or part of a dosage unit.

8. (Amended) Moulding according to Claim 5 [or 6], characterized in that it comprises an active pharmaceutical ingredient.

9. (Amended) Use of a moulding according to [one or more of Claims 5 to 8] Claim 5 to contain or carry an active pharmaceutical ingredient.--

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